

# Whole Country Unites in Backing Wilson

## NOTE WON'T BRING ON WAR, BELIEF OF ENGLISHMAN

Expects, However, Germany Will Not Give Up Submarine Blockade.

## THINKS MESSAGE IS STRONGEST POSSIBLE

Will Lead to Much Correspondence, He Predicts—U. S. Intervention Would Hamper Britain.

(From The Tribune Bureau.)  
Washington, May 14.—That no decisive result will follow from the American note, but that it will lead to considerable correspondence between the United States and Germany, was the view expressed by a prominent Englishman in thorough sympathy with the British Foreign Office ideas here to-day.

"The note of President Wilson is much stronger than I expected, but no stronger than it should have been," this man said. "Following the note of February 18, which declared the United States would hold the German government to a 'strict accountability' if any American lives should be lost through this submarine blockade, a weaker note could not have been taken without yielding position. I think the note is excellent. I am pleased that it placed the complaint of the United States on broad humanitarian grounds rather

than on specific instances, and am inclined to believe that the President was thinking of the German outrages in Belgium when he penned it.

"However, I do not think there is the slightest chance in the world of Germany consenting to give up its submarine blockade or the torpedoing without warning of ships they think are carrying munitions of war to the Allies. I think they are so desperate that they will refuse absolutely to abandon their present campaign of undersea warfare. Certainly, if they talk as they act, they will send a reply refusing to comply with the terms set forth in the Wilson note.

"While some seem to take the view that Germany has no alternative but to abandon its submarine blockade, certainly so far as passenger ships are concerned, or else sever diplomatic relations with this country, and possibly declare war, I do not hold that opinion. I think it quite likely that the Wilson note will lead to a lot of correspondence between the two governments. The reply I think Germany will make will propose again that she will abandon the submarine blockade if England will also stop her blockade of Germany and permit food to be taken in.

"While I think Germany has been misled in her estimate of the American government and the feeling of the people here, and that her impression resulting from this information was that this country could not be goaded into war, with the result that she has gone much further than possibly otherwise would, I do not think the present strained relations will end in war.

"Perhaps the wish is father to the thought, for England, I believe, would be hampered enormously should the United States declare war on Germany. As a matter of almost self-protection, the United States would probably immediately begin to get a great store of munitions of war, with the result that our present supplies from this country would be cut off.

"However, the entrance of the United States into the war on the side of the Allies would probably be triumphant in the end, and remove all doubt from the minds of those nations which are now considered on the fence."

## PRESS UNITED IN SUPPORTING THE PRESIDENT

Approves Stand for Revival of International Law.

## HOPE TACT WILL WIN GERMANY

Sees Only Complete Backdown or Break Possible with Kaiser.

The newspapers of the country are practically unanimous in indorsing the President's note to Germany, although there are differences of opinion as to the results that may be expected from it. Praise of its courtesy and tact is general, although behind both is seen the plain resolve of this country to insist upon the observance of its rights. Most of the newspapers welcome the stand for civilization and the re-establishment of international law. There is definite relief that a decision has been reached. America has accepted the challenge of humanity, and it is for Germany to decide on the wisdom of its further provocation. Following are excerpts typical of hundreds of editorials appearing in papers in the United States:

"The Chicago Tribune": Whatever the fate of our relations with Germany, the President undoubtedly has voiced the sentiment of the nation upon the use of the submarine and as to the rights of neutrals on the high seas.

"The Louisville Courier Journal": The note to Germany meets the requirements and is such as the government of the United States should address to Berlin. The President leaves little room for parley, and none other than mouthings of rapture remains for Germany.

"The Los Angeles Times": It is apparent that the feeling and attitude of the President and his advisers is conciliatory. That is the state of mind of the country. But America will insist to the last that there be no more murderous attacks on merchantmen carrying non-combatants, women and children.

"Will Germany Listen." "The Philadelphia Public Ledger": The administration has spoken, and spoken to the point. The German government cannot have the slightest doubt as to its meaning. Will Germany listen to the voice of prudence before it is too late?

"The New Orleans Times-Picayune": Both in contents and in tone the American note concerning the Lusitania tragedy measures up to the requirements of the crisis which has arisen between the great republic and the great empire. There is a complete lack of bluster; there is no lack of resolution; insistence upon the rights of our citizens. While the issue thus posed is before the German Cabinet this country should keep cool, leaving the President to speak and act in its behalf.

"The Seattle Post-Intelligencer": It is no jingo utterance, no "no more scrap" but a cool, calm declaration—ultimatum, if you please—of this American nation, and in support of it there will be no faltering or division.

"The Final Proposition." "The Minneapolis Journal": The strength of President Wilson's note lies beneath the surface. Outwardly it is almost too calm, but upon examination it is seen that the formal civility of expression is in reality a mask for a grave and final proposition to the imperial German government. And then comes the last strong paragraph. Could the President have said more? The American people will stand by these words.

"The Kansas City Star": President Wilson has said what was in the hearts of his countrymen. He has said it with dignity, with consideration but with unmistakable directness. His words embody the idealism of the American people and the obligation to maintain the principles of high humanity which they feel has devolved upon them in a world in which some of the hard-won gains of civilization have been submerged by the passions of war. The President has nobly met the demands of this critical situation.

"The Denver Post": The President's note to Germany is mainly and patriotically sound. The stand of the United States is unquestionable, notwithstanding the suave and diplomatic expressions used. The red-blooded people of the West would have preferred a note containing a little more emphasis and a little more circumlocution. But, anyhow, come what will, the contents of this note and its sentiment are indorsed by the unanimous sentiment of the great Rocky Mountain region.

"Watchful Waiting" for Reply. "The Boston Transcript": The responsibility for the future lies wholly with Germany, and in that fact lies also the ingenuity of our government's note. It behooves all Americans at this time to assume an attitude of "watchful waiting" for Germany's reply. The President is standing up for the government and people of the United States, and they stand behind him to a man.

"The St. Paul Pioneer Press": The American note reached to a wonderful height of forceful diplomacy. Hoping for the best, the universal American sentiment will be that America has done its duty, and the people will support the President though whatever may be the consequences.

"The Cause of Civilization." "The Chicago News": Every one who reads the note should bear in mind that the cause represented by the authorities in Washington is not alone the cause of Americans and of all neutrals. It is the cause of civilization. The ruinous doctrine that international law is whatever a belligerent power chooses to make it had to be challenged.

"The Springfield Republican": The government's position in this case is the country's position. It is not extreme, yet it covers the ground. "The San Francisco Chronicle": Unmistakably firm, the note is yet friendly in tone, and though this latter qualification may be displeasing to the jingoes, it commends itself to the common sense of the people unaffected with inflammable hatreds. The nation mourns the loss of her citizens, but while demanding justice does so as one who would render justice to all others.

## WILSON'S STAND COMMENDED BY CITY'S BANKERS

Morgan Admires Firm Tone—Others Say Germany Will Avoid War.

## RAILWAY INTERESTS PRAISE PRESIDENT

Choate and Coudert Say Nation's Honor Is Upheld—Ministers Hope for Peace.

"I think the President's note is perfectly admirable and splendid." This statement made by J. P. Morgan yesterday on the stand taken by President Wilson on German violation of the rules of war at sea in his official communication to Germany summarized the opinion of America's foremost bankers. With one accord they declared their loyalty to the Chief Executive of the nation at this time when the future is still fraught with possibilities of the gravest character.

Frank A. Vanderlip, president of the National City Bank, did not come down to business yesterday, but over the telephone from his home in Scarborough he made this statement last night:

"I think every sentiment in the President's note is correct. I would not change a word of it. The American people will stand by him in whatever he means, and in seeing that he is upheld in everything he has sanctioned."

Notwithstanding the fact that the President has placed the issue of peace or war squarely upon the Kaiser and his advisers, the preponderance of sentiment in the financial district was that Germany will not rush madly into hostilities with the United States, but realizing that she has much more to gain by continuing neutrality, will do her utmost to maintain the status quo. With this country practically the only free market place of the world bankers said that Germany will need it whether she is the victor in the present struggle or not. Other expressions of opinion follow:

Henry P. Davison, of J. P. Morgan & Co.: "I think the note was a moderate but strong presentation of our case, and strong bearing the indorsement of every American on its back. The note also takes a firm stand."

A. Barton Hepburn, chairman of the Chase National Bank: "I unqualifiedly indorse the President's note to Germany. It is dignified, statesmanlike, just and right. He presents the position of this country fairly and forcibly. The whole country will support him. If Germany refuses to agree with him she must take a new position as to neutral and belligerent rights different from what the world has accepted, different from what Germany has accepted, and maintained heretofore."

A. J. Hemphill, chairman of the Guaranty Trust Company: "I feel that the President's note to Germany fully expresses the demand of the American people. It is just, frank and firm. It has unified all factions and parties. There are no more pro-Germans and anti-Germans. The entire nation stands behind the President."

James S. Alexander, president of the National Bank of Commerce: "I think it is a very strong note. It puts the issue squarely up to Germany. What her answer will be is hard to guess, but Germany has much to gain by keeping us out. She will need us after the war."

Otto T. Bannard, president of the New York Trust Company: "I believe the President's note was admirable. It was just, frank and firm. It was a qualified approval. It was a difficult task and he has performed it admirably, whatever may happen. He is entitled to the highest praise."

Frederic Strauss, of J. & W. Seligman & Co., said: "I consider the note admirable in every respect. It is splendid in its substance, its tone and its spirit."

Walter E. Frew, president of the Corn Exchange Bank: "I feel that the President's note to Germany can only be most highly commended. It is admirable for its firmness and its expression of the feeling of the American people."

Frank Trumbull, chairman of the Chesapeake & Ohio and the Missouri, Kansas & Texas railway companies, representing the sentiment among railroad executives, declared:

"No President could have handled the situation in our European relations better than President Wilson has."

George W. Wickersham said: "I care to make such a statement on the note until I have read it carefully, but the whole country seems to be satisfied with it, which is the important thing."

One of the strongest arguments put forward by bankers against the United States entering the war was that the Teutonic nations have already been willing to concede a vast extent of Austrian territory to Italy in keeping her neutral, and they thought it inconceivable that she will not make the most important concessions demanded by the United States.

The effect of the publication of President Wilson's note to Germany on stock market prices was to emphasize to a greater degree the weakness of the newspapers. A drop in prices in the issues most heavily traded in ranged from one and a half to more than seven points.

The volume of selling—in excess of 800,000 shares—was a real portent in itself to bring about such big declines, brokers said. They declared it was simply a case of prices "melting away" from an absence of buying power due to the uncertainty over the attitude Germany will take on President Wilson's note.

Joseph H. Choate was especially enthusiastic in his praise. "I think President Wilson's letter is a splendid one," he said. "I quite agree with what he says in it, and I think that every other American should do the same."

Frederic C. Coudert, an authority on international law, said: "It is not now evident to all that the dignity and honor of the nation are entirely safe in the hands of the Chief Executive, and it is certain to my mind that he will receive unanimous support in whatever steps he may deem necessary in carrying out the just cause that his note cogently sets forth."

"It is one of the most masterly state papers I have ever seen," said Ellery C. Stowell, associate professor of international law at Columbia University. "It is a document to which every American ought to be willing to set his signature."

Herman A. Metz, former Controller of New York, said:

"The message of President Wilson is a very able statement of conditions that exist. If he will go a step further and say the same thing to England, we will

**MILLIONS**  
Have Been Lost  
In Other Forms of Investment  
**NOTHING**  
Has Ever Been Lost in Our  
**5%**  
Guaranteed Mortgages

Write for Booklet  
"The Ideal Investment."  
New York Mortgage & Security Co.  
Capital and Surplus, \$2,500,000  
135 Broadway 203 Montague St.  
New York Brooklyn

soon have relief from the pests that are bothering us."

"It is a statement of admirable restraint and dignity," announced Henry Bruere, City Chamberlain, yesterday. "Ministers throughout the city also expressed themselves as satisfied with the action taken by the President. Presbyterians were especially vigorous in praise of Mr. Wilson, who is their colleague."

The Rev. Charles L. Thompson, president of the Home Missions Council, hailed the note to Germany as "the greatest utterance of America since Lincoln's speech at Gettysburg."

The Rev. Charles L. Goodell, of St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church, Eighty-sixth Street and West End Avenue, was also strong in his acclamation of the President's step.

"The note of President Wilson represents the highest conception of our American citizenship," said the Rev. Dr. Curtis Lee Laws, editor of the Baptist weekly, "The Watchman-Examiner," yesterday.

The Rev. William J. Sinnott, formerly of the St. Patrick's Cathedral staff and now pastor of St. Ann's Catholic Church, in Twelfth Street, said:

"I admire the President's attitude because I feel that we do not have to fight Germany. I hope the President will save this country to the cause of peace."

Bishop David H. Greer, a member of the League to Enforce Armaments, expressed his hope that Mr. Wilson would be able to find some peaceful solution to the problem.

New Haven, May 14.—Former Governor Baldwin, an authority on international law, believed to-day that the note to Germany would lead to an amicable settlement of the differences between the two countries through arbitration.

When questioned last night concerning the United States' note to Germany, Booker T. Washington said:

"It is fine. It is well put and a good interpretation of the highest thought of the land. I look for this note to be the arbiter at the end of this great struggle."

Governors, Senators and Representatives Indorse U. S. Protest.

Governors of states and Senators and Representatives of the United States joined yesterday in indorsing the attitude of President Wilson as expressed in the American note to Germany. Political differences were waved aside in discussing the situation and all declared the people would stand by the President in any outcome.

"The President has sounded a note of decision and deliberate conviction which will be heard in every corner of the world," said Governor Willis of Ohio. "The American people, devoted as they are to peace among nations, will sustain him in his decision."

This official of the comments made by numerous state executives who agreed with Governor Samuel M. Ralston of Indiana, that the note to Germany was "clear, firm and dignified," and "as vigorous as it was convincing."

Among the Governors who indorsed the administration's protest were David I. Walsh of Massachusetts, Woodbridge N. Ferris of Michigan, Charles Henderson of Alabama, Locke Craig of North Carolina, George W. Hays of Arkansas, P. L. Goldsborough of Maryland, Edward P. Dunne of Illinois and Arthur Capper of Kansas.

Indorsed by Senators.

"The right word at the right time," the comment of Senator Allen Pomerene, of Ohio, who is a member of the Foreign Relations Committee, expressed the opinion of most of the Senators who talked about the note. Among these Senators were William D. Peltier of California, William Alden Smith of Michigan, W. S. Kenyon, of Iowa; Charles S. Thomas, of Colorado, and Thomas B. Catron, of New Mexico.

Senators who failed to agree with this view of the note were Gilbert M. Hitchcock, of Nebraska, and John D. Works, of California.

"Personally," said Senator Hitchcock, "I should not be willing to go to war for the purpose of securing to American citizens the right to travel in the war zone on an English ship loaded with arms and ammunition."

"It would be much better for us to stop sending munitions of war to the belligerents," said Senator Works.

Praised by Champ Clark.

Speaker Champ Clark issued a statement, in which he said:

"The American note on the awful tragedy of the Lusitania will attract world-wide attention, not only by reason of the gravity of the situation and the importance of the subject matter, but also by reason of the clear form and dignified statement of the case."

"In all human probability it will be as great a turning point as the note without saying that the situation is exceedingly ticklish, and while many of our people are prone to look upon diplomacy as a sort of valiant, nevertheless the fact is that diplomacy has hitherto ironed out several quarrels and entanglements which seemed to preclude our entrance into the war. I have no doubt that President Wilson will succeed in preserving peace with honor."

"The last sentence in the note, asserting the administration's determination to maintain the rights of America and Americans, will be most generously applauded. One thing is certain—the American people will sustain the President in this crisis, for they doubt not his ability or his patriotism."

Representatives Allen T. Treadway and Augustus P. Gardner, of Massachusetts, and Cyrus Cline, of Indiana, were some of those who indorsed the President's attitude.

Numerous societies and organizations in various parts of the country adopted resolutions deprecating war except as a last resort, but warmly commending President Wilson's course thus far and pledging him their support in upholding the rights of American citizens.

Broadway **Saks & Company** 34th Street  
Specialists in Apparel for Men, Women and Children  
Continuing today the most important and successful  
**Sale of Fine Shirts for Men**  
ever held by Saks & Company

The sale began with 17,000 Shirts, of which 13,000 were the famous Gotham brand, the makers of which are retiring from business, and 4,000 Saks Shirts added to complete the size-range in all the lines. Though the selling has been very large, there is right now a fine assortment of patterns, and the size-range is intact.

These Shirts are made with shrunk, beaded neckband; extra fine stitching, and best buttons, in a factory organized only to make fine Shirts. They are not ordinary "sale" Shirts, but regular, high-grade stock.

at 79c at \$1.30 at \$2.15

regularly \$1.00 & \$1.50 regularly \$2.00 to \$3.00 regularly \$3.50 & \$4.00

Woven Madras and mercerized cloths and fine-count French percales, plain negligee, soft negligee with soft cuffs or with stiff cuffs. Pleated models with stiff cuffs. We venture to believe you never before have seen such shirts at 79c.

Mainly imported silk-and-cotton fabrics, woven Madras, Russian cords, mercerized cloths with fine woven satin stripes, mostly exclusive designs. Soft negligee or pleated models, with soft or stiff cuffs. Also Tennis and Sport Shirts; attached collar.

A rare collection of novelty fabrics, including exquisite silk mixtures, all in exclusive designs. Most of these Shirts in plain negligee style with soft cuffs; a few pleated models with soft cuffs. A lot limited to only 2,400. Sizes 14 to 18.

at \$2.85 at \$5.85

regularly \$5.00 and \$6.00 regularly \$7.50 to \$10.00

Absolutely PURE silk, ALL-silk, no loading, which is somewhat unusual even at the full regular prices. Stitched with silk. White grounds with satin stripes and unusual color designs. Soft negligee with French cuffs, some are pleated. Sizes 13½ to 18.

Unusual and exquisite. Genuine peau de crepes, novelty crepes, imported crepes and extremely fine silk cloths. Colored stripes and designs on white grounds. Tailored with most wonderful care and skill. Colors and effects that are very rare, others very neat and "quiet." Sizes 14 to 18.

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## Lord & Taylor

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A Special Purchase of Suits that Were Made to Sell at \$23.50 to \$30.00

**\$18.50**

The smart two and three button effects with soft roll lapels in a selection of neat stripes, checks, plaids and fancy mixtures, with silk or mohair linings.

Sizes 34 to 44  
No Charge Is Made for Alterations

## Men's & Young Men's Straw Hats

\$1.65, \$2.00 & \$3.00  
Up-to-date models, including the flexible brim; made of fine quality straws in smooth or rough effects. Sizes 6½ to 7¾.

Fourth Floor

## Spring Sale of Men's Furnishings

Negligee Shirts  
Mercerized, woven and printed madras cloth. Usually \$1.50 to \$1.50 85c

Fine imported and domestic madras, mercerized and printed madras, starched or French soft cuffs. Usually \$2.00 to \$2.50 1.35

Silk negligee shirts with satin stripes, tub silks, French cuffs. Usually \$3.00 to \$4.00 2.65

Neckwear  
Silk four-in-hands, plain cloths and fancy, imported and domestic silks, English foulards, fancy crepes, regimental striped and rich fancy designs. Usually \$1.00 & \$1.50 55c

Imported and domestic fancy silk four-in-hands. Usually \$1.50 to \$2.00 85c

Underwear  
Fine figured mercerized cloth athletic underwear, knee drawers and sleeveless shirts. Usually 75c 55c

Pajamas  
Silk mixture pajamas, neat designs, silk loops, V-neck. Usually \$4.00 & \$4.50 2.85

Fine mercerized cloth pajamas, plain cloths, silk loops, V-neck. Usually \$1.50 95c

Ground Floor

## Men's High and Low Shoes

Boots, Oxfords or Pumps  
\$3.95, \$4.85, \$5.85  
Usually \$5.00 to \$8.00

Tennis or Outing Shoes

White Canvas.....\$3.95

White Buckskin.....\$5.85

Tan Russia Calf.....\$4.85

Tan Russia Calf (hob nails).....\$5.85

58th Street Entrance, direct into Men's and Boys' Section

## "Stand by the President"

This is what a million people said on Saturday morning last when they woke up and found that the Lusitania had gone down.

Whatever race, creed, color or politics we belong to, every native-born citizen, every naturalized citizen, every person seeking for naturalization, must nail up the American flag and take his stand for it on the basis of the President's message to the world, making plain our position in the forefront of civilization, for these principles:

1—Opposing the disposition and action of any nation, under any circumstances, to attempt to control the waters of any of the oceans in denial of the equal rights of the United States.

2—Insisting upon the disavowal, as an adopted method of war, of such acts as the sinking of any merchant ships carrying American citizens in the pursuit of business or happiness.

3—Insisting upon adequate reparation for American lives lost and American property destroyed.

4—Demanding that submarine warfare on merchant shipping shall cease.

It is in these strong terms that the President has spoken, and the President speaks for the Nation.

In This Great Hour of Our Nation's History

we certainly mean to stand by the President and to this end we make the respectful suggestion, under the shadow of the Old Hall where the Declaration of Independence was signed, that the last half of the statement following this shall be signed and sent to the executive of the Nation at Washington. He will feel stronger if a million men and women of the cities, towns and villages all over the United States send him the assurance of their support. It cannot hurt anything, and it may help to strengthen him in his arduous work.

Do it today!

A Pledge of Support to the President

We, American citizens, whether native or foreign born, without regard to political party, race, creed or religion, do hereby pledge ourselves, in the words of the Declaration of Independence, "Our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor," to support the President of the United States, in any decision or action he may find it necessary to take in the present state of National and International affairs, to uphold the honor of our country, in defense of and for the protection of, the lives of all or any of our fellow citizens, and hereby we give our signatures.

Name

Address

City and State</